

Claims

What is claimed:

1. A method for using eye marks, comprising:
providing an eye mark having at least two sections arranged along a longitudinal axis, wherein each section includes a border common to both sections and a unique characteristic relative to other sections; and encoding instructions in the eye mark based upon the combination of the at least two sections.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein providing an eye mark having at least two sections further includes providing the unique characteristic of each section of the eye mark as a first and a second color characteristic.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein providing the unique characteristic of each section of the eye mark as the first and the second color characteristic includes an eye mark having the first and the second color characteristic selected from the colors cyan, magenta, yellow, black, light cyan, light magenta, red, green, and blue.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein providing an eye mark having at least two sections includes providing an eye mark having more than two unique color characteristics.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein providing an eye mark having at least two sections includes providing an eye mark having a black and white characteristic and a color characteristic for the at least two sections.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein providing an eye mark having at least two sections includes providing an eye mark having a color characteristic and a location characteristic for the at least two sections.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein providing an eye mark having at least two sections includes providing an eye mark having a first and a second shape characteristic for the at least two sections.
8. The method of claim 7, wherein providing an eye mark having a first and a second shape characteristic includes providing a first and a second shape characteristic which are different from one another.
9. The method of claim 1, wherein providing an eye mark having at least two sections includes providing a first and a second characteristic for the at least two sections that have at least a three bit binary structure.
10. A method for using eye marks, comprising:
providing an eye mark, on a print media, having at least two color sections positioned along a longitudinal axis for parallel sensing, wherein each color section includes a border common to both sections and includes a different color characteristic relative other color sections; and
encoding instructions in the eye mark based on the different color characteristics.
11. The method of claim 10, wherein encoding instructions in the eye mark based on the different color characteristics further includes encoding a processing instruction using one or more different color characteristics.
12. The method of claim 11, wherein the method includes operating on the print media based on the processing instructions.
13. The method of claim 10, wherein providing an eye mark includes providing an eye mark having at least three color sections positioned for parallel sensing, wherein each color section includes a different color characteristic.
14. The method of claim 13, wherein providing an eye mark having at least three color sections includes providing each section with a different color selected from the group of cyan, magenta, yellow, light magenta, light cyan, red, green, and blue.

15. A method for processing print material, comprising:
 - providing a sheet of material;
 - providing a number of eye marks, on the material, with at least one eye mark having a first color section and a second color section positioned along a longitudinal axis, wherein the first color section and the second color section include a common border;
 - scanning a surface of the sheet of material to identify the at least one eye mark thereon;
 - interpreting one or more instructions provided by the identified eye mark; and
 - operating on the sheet of material according to the one or more instructions provided.
16. The method of claim 15, wherein interpreting one or more instructions includes interpreting one or more instructions provided by a particular combination of the first color section and the second color section.
17. The method of claim 15, wherein scanning a surface of the sheet includes scanning to identify the at least one eye mark by a particular combination of the first color section and the second color section.
18. The method of claim 15, wherein operating on the sheet includes operating on the sheet to cut it into segments according to one or more instructions.
19. The method of claim 18, wherein operating on the sheet includes operating on the sheet to sort the segments.
20. The method of claim 15, wherein providing a sheet of material includes providing a sheet of material having a number of images serially printed on the sheet.
21. The method of claim 15, wherein providing a sheet of material includes providing a sheet of material having a number of images printed in a matrix.

22. The method of claim 15, wherein operating on the sheet according to one or more instructions includes operating on the sheet to calibrate a sensor using a color print scale printed on the sheet.

23. A computer readable medium having a set of computer executable instructions to cause a device to perform a method, comprising:

monitoring a surface of a material to identify one or more eye marks having at least two sections arranged along a longitudinal axis, wherein each section includes one common border and a unique characteristic relative other sections;

detecting instructions from a combination of the at least two sections of the one or more identified eye marks; and

initiating an operation on the material based upon the detected instructions.

24. A computer readable medium having a set of computer executable instructions to cause a device to perform a method, comprising:

providing an eye mark having at least two sections arranged along a longitudinal axis, wherein each section includes a border common to both sections and a unique characteristic relative to other sections; and

encoding instructions in the eye mark based upon the combination of the at least two sections.

25. A computer readable medium having a set of computer executable instructions to cause a device to perform a method, comprising:

providing an eye mark, on a print media, having at least two color sections positioned along a longitudinal axis for parallel sensing, wherein each color section includes a border common to both sections and includes a different color characteristic relative other color sections; and

encoding instructions in the eye mark based on the different color characteristics.

26. An eye mark sensing device, comprising:

at least two color sensors operable for identifying an eye mark having at least two sections arranged for parallel sensing along a longitudinal axis,

wherein each section includes one common border and a unique color relative other sections; and

programming means for interpreting process information contained within the eye mark.

27. The device of claim 26, wherein the eye mark sensing device includes at least three different color sensors operable for identifying a color eye mark having at least three different colors positioned side by side.

28. The device of claim 26, wherein the device further includes;
a monochrome sensor operable for identifying a monochrome component of the eye mark; and
programming means for interpreting process information contained within the monochrome component of the eye mark.

29. A print medium having processing instructions, comprising:
a number of color eye marks, wherein the number of color eye marks provide
a first process instruction; and
a second process instruction.

30. The print medium of claim 29, wherein the number of eye marks include one or more eye marks having at least two color sections, wherein each color section includes a different color characteristic.

31. The print medium of claim 29, wherein the first process instruction is to verify that the mark is an eye mark.

32. The print medium of claim 29, wherein the first process instruction is to apply a matte finish to the sheet of material.

33. The print medium of claim 29, wherein the second process instruction is an instruction to cut the sheet of material into segments.

34. A device for encoding information onto a material, comprising;

a first component operable to interpret one or more processing instructions and establish eye marks representative of at least one of the instructions; and

a second component operable to deposit an established eye mark on a material, wherein the established eye mark includes at least two sections arranged for parallel sensing along a longitudinal axis, wherein each section includes one common border and a unique color relative other sections.

35. The device of claim 34, wherein a first component operable to establish marks representative of at least one of the instructions includes a first component operable to establish marks that have at least a three bit binary structure.

36. The device of claim 34, wherein a first component operable to establish marks representative of at least one of the instructions includes a first component operable to establish marks having at least three colors.

37. A system for processing images, comprising;
a sensing component operable to receive encoded information from one or more eye marks present on a material, wherein the one or more eye marks include at least two sections arranged for parallel sensing along a longitudinal axis, wherein each section includes one common border and a unique color relative other sections;
software means for interpreting the received encoded information; and
a processing component operable to process the material according to the received information.

38. The system of claim 37, wherein the processing component includes a Liquid Electro-Photographic (LEP) printer.

39. The system of claim 37, wherein the processing component includes a laser printer.

40. The system of claim 37, wherein the processing component includes a finisher.
41. The system of claim 37, wherein the processing component includes a cutter.
42. The system of claim 37, wherein the processing component includes a rewinder.
43. The system of claim 37, wherein the processing component includes a back printing component.
44. The system of claim 37, wherein the processing component includes a packaging machine.